

DEPARTMENT OF EXTENSION SERVICE

(Part II)

Extension Service's double extension in 1933 of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the 20th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, was the beginning of farm demonstration work in the United States.

The first demonstration was held in Holmes County, Miss., in 1933. It was the first federally sponsored rural demonstration.

Through the year 1937, the financing of extension work in territory not yet reached by the boll weevil was with funds of the General Education Board of New York, administered through the Division of Plant Industry of the USDA, and with additional funds raised by local subscriptions from business interests.

On March 3, 1938, the Mississippi Legislature passed a far-reaching act providing for county departments of extension. This permitted each county board of supervisors to appoint a county commissioner of agriculture, and to pay this agricultural worker out of the general fund.

Adams county was the first to comply with the provisions of this Act by employing W. D. Clayton as agent on May 15, 1938. Monroe County appointed J. M. Dean as county agent on December 1 of that year. In January 1939, Madison County appointed Charles W. Watson as agent.

Mississippi's first state boys' club leader, F. P. Garner, was appointed on August 1, 1939. In that same year, the first boys' pig club in the state was organized in Oktibbeha County by W. H. Miller and Hugh Carter. This was a logical outgrowth of the corn clubs, since hogs are a good market outlet for that crop.

Girls' and women's demonstration work which had previously lacked organization and leadership, was encouraged in 1941 when in February of that year Miss Susie V. Powell was called to Washington by Dr. Knapp to plan girls' canning clubs. She established tomato clubs in Copiah and Lincoln counties.

The first canning club agents, put to work on May 1, 1941, by Miss Powell were Miss Mattie Furr in Lincoln County and Miss Mable McIntosh in Copiah County. These two were teachers in local schools, who received \$50 each for this summer work and had

the title of "club agent."

Miss Powell was made Mississippi's first home demonstration agent on October 1, 1941.

As the year 1941 ended, Mississippi had three women Extension workers and 51 men workers. The first county club exhibit was made at the state fair.

In 1942 a bill was passed enabling county supervisors to cooperate with the USDA, state and other agencies in employing home demonstration agents.

The Cooperative Creamery at A. & M. College was opened in September, 1942.

The first cooperative shipment of dried livestock in the state was made in 1942 from Mathiston in Webster County by County Agent C. M. Holland.

The year 1944 is an outstanding one in the history of farm demonstration in the United States, for on May 8 of that year Congress passed and President Wilson signed the Smith-Lever Cooperative Extension Act which established Extension as it has since functioned.

First director of Extension for Mississippi, E. R. Lloyd, was appointed on July 1, 1945. Headquarters of Extension were in Jackson at that time, and were moved to Mississippi A & M College on January 1, 1946, where it has since remained.

On November 1, 1945, M. M. Hubert was appointed district agent for Negro Extension work in Mississippi. He had served since September 1943 as Negro county agent in Jefferson Davis County with headquarters at Prentiss Institute, under a cooperative plan between Prentiss Institute and the USDA. At that time, there were four Negro agents in the state.

Although a cooperative cattle shipment had been made in 1942, the real beginning of cooperative shipping in a systematic way in the state was of 4-H club pigs from Yazoo County in 1945, responsible for this being County Agent W. R. Ritch.

First baby beef clubs in the state, and probably in the nation, were started in 1945 in Madison, Hinds, Warren and Jefferson Counties, followed a little later by Tate County.

World War I in 1917 and 1918 mobilized the educational and organizational resources of the Extension Service of Mississippi State College for food production control and related activities. Community organizations were formed for war-time activities and cooperative marketing. Some of these communities have functioned as organizations ever since.

The growing importance of the state's livestock industry became apparent in 1918 with the federation of several livestock associations into the State

Association of Mississippi.

These included stock raising, poultry raising, and other livestock raising.

Today, Home Demonstration Clubs of the state have a total membership of over 40,000.

In the spring of 1947, the Extension force aided in handling the flood emergency.

With the "New Deal" and the beginning of the alphabet agencies in 1933, Extension conducted the original AAA program. Here again, the organization adapted itself to changing conditions, while retaining its basic program.

An agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority was signed by Extension and State College in 1933, involving unit, and area test demonstrations. Starting with 30 farms, this grew to 589 farms by 1938. It has since continued to expand, and now furnishes at least one kind of demonstration in every county of the state.

Thus, extension in Mississippi has continued to the present to disseminate reliable information from the Experiment Station and the USDA to farm families who can use this information. Extension Service met the production challenge of World War II, and is advising farm families and others how to avoid possible costly errors during the uncertainties of the present period.

Brief reference has already been made to the present status of Extension, including its influence through organized groups.

Conducted directly by Extension in Mississippi are 4-H Clubs, with a total enrollment of about 104,000. There are approximately 40,000 members of Home Demonstration Clubs in Mississippi.

With leadership from Mississippi State College through the Extension Service, organized community development has been re-emphasized in the majority of the counties of Mississippi. Much of this took place during 1952. Several communities in various counties were organized in the winter and spring of 1953.

Community and county development programs are a useful supplement to the work of all organizations interested in increasing farm income as a means of securing better living for everyone.

Regular attendance at community meetings is bringing information from the Land-Grant college and the USDA to families who had previously had little contact with such assistance. This movement is beginning to improve attendance and participation in Home Demonstration Club work.

Community development is helping to build better understanding and active cooperation between farm and non-farm groups. Business and professional men and women are taking an active part in all phases of this activity.

In connection with the above, and continuing long established relationships, Extension cooperates with all state and area organizations interested in agriculture. This list is too long to give here. However, it includes farm organizations, bankers, all other agricultural agencies and several governmental activities not primarily agricultural but concerned with farm people.

The state-wide informational mission of Extension is accomplished in Mississippi by over 450 staff members, of which a large majority work in the county level with financing provided cooperatively by three levels of gov-

ernment.

One 100 members of the Extension staff are Negro workers, whose work is with members of their race. Most of these are county workers.

Practical demonstrations, tours and other meetings are held in all counties in better screening groups with better farm and home methods.

Work of the specialists and agents is supplemented by the use of various mass media including publications, the press, radio and visual aids. Publications have continuously become more concise, attractive, and generally usable. Thousands of farm families are potential information from regular Extension newspaper articles, including weekly personalized columns by the county agent and home demonstration agent.

The five-times-per-week (published Mississippi State College Farm and Home Program) is used by 25 county extension staffs conduct weekly and "even" daily radio programs to "reach" and "localize" information.

The 4-H Club program conducted by Extension in Mississippi has drawn national attention for many of its activities, too many to report here. All outstanding accomplishments in which the entire state takes pride are the three 4-H training centers, at Sardis Lake and Ocean Springs for white, negro, and Negro camps for the Negroes.

Those facilities, among the best of their kind in the nation, were made available through funds provided by the 4-H Club members themselves, by Home Demonstration Club members, by the Mississippi Legislature, and by boosters of 4-H Club work donating to the Mississippi 4-H Foundation, Inc.

Mississippi 4-H Club members reached a record high of 75 per cent statewide in project completion for 1952. That year, six in years past, Mississippi had several national and sectional winners in 4-H project work. Probably most important of all were many thousands of boys and girls who developed confidence, leadership and character because of their 4-H experiences.

In brief, Extension is either directly or indirectly assisting practically all farm families of Mississippi. This is in many ways difficult to evaluate, due to the increasing use of mass media and to information being passed from one neighbor to another.

Non-farm families are in greater numbers turning to Extension for information. This applies to most phases of home economics, as well as to gardening, landscaping and other fields.

Facing the future, the Agricultural Extension Service of Mississippi State College will draw upon its nearly 50 years' experience in farm demonstration work to maintain and further develop a program which is realistic in meeting the needs of the people. This will continue to be a true "grass roots" program, with the people advising the Land-Grant institution of their problems. At the same time, Experiment Station studies of all aspects of farming and rural living will be used to assist farm families, together with interested non-farm groups, in discovering problem areas and suggesting solutions to those problems.

Complete farm and home planning, generally known as balanced farming, will be continued. This kind of planning shows the farm family both how to increase their income through a combination of enterprises, and how to make the wisest use of increased income in terms of all-round better living. Balanced farming also secures the kind of conservation farming necessary to increase the productivity of the soil and to conserve it for use by future generations.

Projecting the Extension program to all whom it should reach will require

more than ever that Extension work through organized groups. This will be done through rural community organizations and their sponsors. Use of all methods of mass communications will continue to grow in importance.

Mr. and Mrs. Mabel Garcia, of St. Louis, Mo., arrived in Bay St. Louis Monday morning in honor of their son, Mabel Garcia, Jr., a graduate of St. Stanislaus.

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Mrs. C. Calhoun and daughter, Gertrude, were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Cox. They are the mother and sister of Mrs. Cox, and attended the graduation of the Cox family at St. Stanislaus.

Mrs. Charles E. Johnson was asked to speak on the subject, "What Bay St. Louis Episcopals are doing for young people" at the regular meeting of St. John's guild, at Ocean Springs last week. She discussed Christ Church School, and the Young People's Service League at Christ Church.

Mrs. Ann Nachman of New Orleans, La., and Mrs. Hugh Kiefer of New Orleans, La., and two sons, Gerry and Dennis, and Charles Kiefer of New Orleans, spent the weekend in Bay St. Louis with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kiefer.

Dr. and Mrs. Louis Maunus, of Bay St. Louis, are occupying their home in Bay St. Louis. During the winter months they have been residing in New Orleans.

Mrs. Emy Little of New Orleans was the guest of her sister, Mrs. Mildred Piazza.

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Sheriff and Mrs. John Egloff entertained at a reception at their home Saturday night following the graduation exercises of St. Joseph Academy, honoring their daughter, Marlene, who was graduated from that school.

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A telephone call will bring Our Representative on ALL KINDS OF INSURANCE

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Here is your chance to really stretch your dollars! While they last, you can have any of the following items for the reduced prices shown below. These prices are for CASH SALES ONLY. Our regular low prices apply on credit sales.

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Guaranteed to outperform all others in its H.P. class. Advanced features, "stepped up" power. Perfect control at every speed, 30 m.p.h. or 1 m.p.h. 20632

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Outstanding value in its class. Speeds over 30 m.p.h. . . . guaranteed to outperform all others in its piston displacement class 1 m.p.h. trolling. "Friction-Free" bearings. 20631

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Clip, snaffle, chop, finer, spreads faster - fertilize as it cuts! Wizard outperforms them all! Quick start with automatic recoil starter. Many other features. 21254

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Many of power turn gardening labor into fun. Attachments hitch on in seconds - for mowing, cultivating, weed cutting, plowing, earth and snow moving. Easy to handle, perfect balance. Complete with tools. Do the job easily, quickly, with the new Wizard! 20630

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COMMENCEMENT HELD AT VALENA C. JONES

By Prof. William E. Johnson

Valena C. Jones held their commencement ceremony Sunday, May 24, 1953 at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. S. J. Peters was the guest speaker for this occasion. We were honored to have Professor S. J. Peters and Mr. Wayne Allison, President of the trustee board to witness this affair.

The school held their class picnic program Monday, May 25, 1953 in the school auditorium.

Wednesday, May 27, 1953 was graduation night. Mr. W. E. Johnson, Principal of 33rd Avenue High School was the speaker of the evening.

We were honored again to have Prof. S. J. Peters, Mayor-elect John Saffide, Commissioner J. C. Glover, S. J. Linder, Jr. and President of the trustee board Wayne Allison was on hand and we are very grateful that they came.

The school held their annual picnic Thursday, May 28, 1953 at Gulfside.

We want to thank the people in the community for making our school year a successful one.

COMMERCIAL STANDARD INSURANCE CO.

Commercial Standard Bldg., Ft. Worth, Texas in the State of Texas on the 31st day of December 1952 made to the Commissioner of Insurance of the State of Mississippi

ASSETS	
Bonds	\$5,890,544.86
Stocks	878,918.09
Real Estate Owned	9,933.95
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	507,556.66
Cash and Bank Deposits	1,772,257.72
Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums	1,602,985.70
Other Assets	892,235.97
TOTAL ASSETS	\$11,543,982.95

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS	
Reserve for Losses	\$2,230,449.53
Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses	479,231.00
Reserve for Unearned Premium	5,079,398.84
Reserve for Taxes	470,082.00
All Other Liabilities	266,744.87
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$8,525,906.24

Special Surplus Funds		
Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit	1,100,000.00	
Unassigned Funds (Surplus)	1,918,076.61	
Surplus as Regards Policyholders		\$ 3,018,076.61
TOTAL	\$11,543,982.95	
INCREASE IN LEDGER ASSETS		\$11,162,348.95
DECREASE IN LEDGER ASSETS		\$ 9,094,094.90

BUSINESS IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE YEAR

DIRECT PREMIUMS COLLECTED	DIRECT LOSSES PAID
TOTAL \$67,592.30	TOTAL \$ 2,518.50
Deducting Salvages	

PRESIDENT R. E. BUCK **SECRETARY J. S. FIERINGER, JR.**
General Agent for Service — Insurance Commissioner of Mississippi

SEABOARD FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

90 John Street, New York 38, in the State of New York on the 31st day of December 1952 made to the Commissioner of Insurance of the State of Mississippi

ASSETS	
Bonds	2,869,470.47
Stocks	1,750,570.00
Cash and Bank Deposits	652,671.12
Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums	282,668.94
Other Assets	95,787.33
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,651,167.86

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS	
Reserve for Losses	\$ 698,068.00
Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses	39,085.00
Reserve for Unearned Premium	2,561,003.94
Reserve for Taxes	89,000.00
All Other Liabilities	117,323.55
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$3,495,479.49

Special Surplus Funds		
Capital Paid Up	1,000,000.00	
Unassigned Funds (Surplus)	1,155,893.37	
Surplus as Regards Policyholders		\$2,155,893.37
TOTAL	\$5,651,167.86	
INCREASE IN LEDGER ASSETS		\$2,585,014.00
DECREASE IN LEDGER ASSETS		\$2,707,453.90

BUSINESS IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE YEAR

DIRECT PREMIUMS COLLECTED	DIRECT LOSSES PAID
TOTAL \$20,629.59	TOTAL \$2,525.61
Deducting Salvages	

PRESIDENT A. O. ROBINSON **SECRETARY E. L. WILKINS**
General Agent for Service — Insurance Commissioner of Mississippi

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WILMER'S GROCERY & MEAT

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